

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION II**

DATE: SEP 16 2005

SUBJECT: **DECISION MEMORANDUM:** Amendment to Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Remedial Design Activities at the Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Superfund Site, South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey

FROM: Carole Petersen, Chief
New Jersey Remediation Branch

TO: George Pavlou, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

PURPOSE

The purpose of this decision memorandum is to request the approval of an interagency agreement (IAG) between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This IAG provides for remedial design activities at the Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Superfund site, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended.

SUMMARY OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS IAG

ACTIVITY	FUNDING DATES	FUNDING
Remedial Design - OU1	September 30, 2004	\$400,000
Remedial Design - OU2	February 17, 2005	\$1,000,000
Remedial Design - OU1	This Action	\$500,000
Total Funding		\$1,900,000

REQUIRED ACTION

The Cornell-Dubilier Electronics (CDE) site is located at 333 Hamilton Boulevard, South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey. The former CDE facility, now known as the Hamilton Industrial Park, consists of approximately 26 acres containing 18 buildings that are currently used by a variety of commercial and industrial tenants.

SYMBOL --->	CNJRS	CNJRS	NJRB	
SURNAME -->	P. Mannino	J. Prince	C. Petersen	
DATE ----->	9/16/05		9/16/05	

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CDE operated in South Plainfield from 1936 to 1962, manufacturing electronic components including, in particular, capacitors. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and chlorinated organic solvents were used in the manufacturing process, and the company apparently disposed of PCB-contaminated materials and other hazardous substances directly on the facility soils. CDE's activities evidently led to widespread chemical contamination at the facility, as well as migration of contaminants to areas adjacent to the facility. PCBs have been detected in the groundwater, soils and in building interiors at the industrial park, at adjacent residential, commercial, and municipal properties, and in the surface water and sediments of the Bound Brook. High levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have been found in the facility soils and in groundwater.

On September 30, 2003, EPA signed a ROD to address PCB contamination that is found on residential, commercial, and municipal properties in the vicinity of the former CDE facility (OU1). The requested funding will provide for the continuation of the remedial design for this operable unit. On September 30 2004, EPA signed a ROD to address contaminated facility soils and buildings (OU2). Final remedies to address the groundwater (OU3) and the Bound Brook (OU4) will be presented in future Proposed Plans and RODs.

A. Requested Project

The planned activities include furnishing the personnel, materials, and equipment needed to perform remedial design activities at the site.

B. Estimated Cost

To date, \$400,000 has been obligated under this IAG. It is estimated that \$500,000 will be needed to continue the work described in Section A, above.

C. Schedule

It is anticipated that the activities described in Section A, above, will be completed by December 31, 2006.

TRAVEL BUDGET AND EQUIPMENT

A. Travel Budget

EPA invariably provides travel funds, shown on Part II-Approved Budget, item 22 (c) of the budget breakdown on the attached IAG forms. These funds are budgeted for USACE

staff to undertake travel in connection with the implementation of the SOW. These funds will be utilized in accordance with the General Conditions, appended as Attachment B of the IAG, and are not intended for the purpose of exceeding a travel ceiling or similar limitation.

CONDITIONS

All terms and conditions of the original agreement remain the same.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you approve the \$500,000 needed to continue remedial design activities associated with the Cornell-Dubilier Electronics site, by signing below and the attached copies of the IAG.

Sufficient funds are available in the Region's Advice of Allowance for this work.

I am available to discuss this recommendation at your convenience.

Approve: _____

Disapprove: _____

Date: _____

Attachments